

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested.

Claims 8-28 and 30 are presently pending in this application. The Examiner has rejected claims 8, 12-17, 21, 22, 24, 25, and 30 based upon 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,126,654 (Murphy et al.). Additionally, claim 8 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,194,902 (Kuo et al.).

The Examiner has indicated that claims 9-11, 18-20, 23, and 26-28 are objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, claim 9 has been amended so as to become an independent claim based on a combination of claims 8 and 9. As such, claim 8 has been canceled. Claims 12, 13, 14, and 15 have been amended so as to change the claim dependency from claim 8 to claim 9. A similar amending change has been made to claim 30. As such, all claims depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claim 9, the claim which the Examiner indicated would be allowed once rewritten in the manner indicated. Accordingly, claims 9-28 and 30 are in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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